

HONORING THE LIFE AND  
CONTRIBUTIONS OF TODD A. VEGA

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 18, 2022*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and contributions of Todd A. Vega, a beloved member of the Tampa Bay community, who passed away on February 28, 2022 at the age of 60. A fifth generation Floridian born and raised in Tampa, Todd positively impacted our Tampa Bay community in countless ways.

Todd served for 34 years in the construction industry. A long-time Union member, Todd worked in various roles including pipefitter, organizer and most recently as Business Manager of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry (UA) Plumbers Pipefitters Local 123 in Tampa. He always stood firmly for what he believed in and served as a major advocate for workers' rights throughout his career. Todd's dedication to his work and the people around him greatly contributed to the training of countless apprentices and journeymen who continue to strengthen the industry's standards and quality of work put forward in our community.

Our community honors and grieves the loss of his tireless efforts and leadership on behalf of his members, the members of the West Central FL Labor Council and the Florida Gulf Coast Building and Construction Trades Council and working families all over Florida. Todd was a big man, literally and figuratively, with a heart that was even bigger. The biggest gap in our community to fill may be his work for and devotion to children. Todd was always quick to help all as a friend and supporter, but it has been said of him that "you sure never had to ask twice when helping kids was involved." The U/A Mechanical Contractors of Central Florida Charity Foundation exists to serve local children in need of school supplies, a toy or other resources that can brighten their lives and give them an opportunity.

Todd's family and the working men and women of Tampa Bay and Florida were at the core of his life. They and we are so much better for it. I have in my prayers his wife, Shari; daughter, Tiffany (Ed); father, Harold; brothers, Troy and James (Kathy); niece, Alisha; nephew, J.P.; and grandchildren, Coy, Andy and Legend. His memory will truly be a blessing for them and all of us.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of my neighbors in Tampa Bay and the citizens of Florida, I am proud to honor Todd A. Vega, his devotion to all of us and particularly workers' rights and opportunities. The impacts of Todd's big heart will be felt throughout our community for years to come. All in our community and especially those of us who called him a friend are eternally grateful for him having passed our way. May his soul rest in peace.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF HUNTER LONG FOR WINNING THE DIVISION III WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 18, 2022*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I rise to pay a very special tribute to an outstanding high school wrestler in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Hunter Long of Wayne Trace High School has represented his school ably on his way to achieving the Division III State Wrestling Title. Austin overcame the challenges posed by intense competition in his effort to win the Division III State Wrestling Championship.

In pursuing the State Championship, Hunter Long defeated his opponent in the finals of the 132-pound classification. His hard work and dedication, both on and off the mat, in achieving this accomplishment is truly outstanding. He achieved an impressive season record bringing pride to his school and community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Hunter Long of Wayne Trace High School. On behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Ohio, I am proud to recognize this great achievement.

RECOGNIZING MR. DAVID  
CARDENAS

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 18, 2022*

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Fowler Mayor, David Cardenas, who passed away on Friday, March 11, 2022.

Mr. Cardenas was born in Michoacan, Mexico, and moved to the United States when he was 14 years old. Like many in the Central Valley, his father was a farm worker and instilled a deep sense of hard work, discipline, and commitment to family in him from a young age. His father pushed him to make a better life for himself in America. In 1981, he opened Dave's Auto Service, a business he ran for decades.

Mr. Cardenas was deeply devoted to both his faith and his community throughout his entire life. He spent over 20 years on the Fowler City Council and spent the past 12 years as the city's mayor. Additionally, he served on multiple boards of community organizations, such as the Fowler Lions Club, the Measure C Renewal Executive Committee, and St. Lucy's Church. He also served as the President of the Guadalupe Society, leading multiple trips to Mexico to bring a statue of our Lady of Guadalupe back to his local church.

Mr. Cardenas was a true pillar of our community. His dedicated and honorable service helped improve the lives of so many throughout the Central Valley. His commitment to his fellow citizens was truly admirable, and his selfless service will never be forgotten.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life and service of Mayor David Cardenas.

HONORING CORINTH TOWN SUPERVISOR RICHARD LUCIA ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 18, 2022*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Corinth Town Supervisor Richard Lucia on his retirement. Mr. Lucia served his community for nearly forty years, a testament to the incredible work he has done for the people of Corinth.

Mr. Lucia grew up in Corinth and began working at the International Paper mill at a young age. He worked in the mill's power plant, ran the paper machine turbines, and finished off his forty-year career as a clerk. His experience at the International Paper mill helped him realize the importance of industrial strength to Corinth's economic vitality.

Mr. Lucia dedicated his storied career to serving the community of Corinth in many capacities. In addition to serving as town supervisor, Mr. Lucia held numerous roles in the community including Town Councilman, Chairman of the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors, and Corinth GOP Committee Chair. Mr. Lucia's love and appreciation for the town of Corinth was exemplified through his commitment to serving his constituents. Throughout his twenty-eight years as town supervisor, Mr. Lucia kept tax rates level, built a new town garage, and opened the town's own history and paper-making museums. He also oversaw the purchase of sixteen miles of rail line from Saratoga Springs to Antone Mountain to help attract new business to the abandoned International Paper mill.

Throughout his tenure in public service, Mr. Lucia prioritized civility while working tirelessly to improve the quality of life for residents of Corinth. Mr. Lucia dedicated his career to being a conscientious steward of the people and land for which he loves, ensuring that Corinth continues to live up to its full potential. His accomplished record and his reputation as a community advocate serve as an inspiration to all New Yorkers. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize his exceptional leadership and want to wish him the best in his future endeavors.